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2136

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION

Hal Joseph Burch
William R Cheswick

CASE 2-9

Serial No. 09/901286 Group Art Unit 2136

Filed July 9, 2001

Examiner B. S. Hoffman

Title Method And Apparatus For Tracing Packets In A Communications Network

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Enclosed is a Response to Office Action and Request for Reconsideration in the above-identified application.

NO ADDITIONAL FEE REQUIRED

In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit Deposit Account No. 12-2325 as required to correct the error.

Respectfully,

Kenneth M. Brown, Attorney
Reg. No. 37590
908-582-5998.

Date: 12/7/05

Docket Administrator (Room 3J-219)
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Date of Deposit Dec. 7, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Commissioner, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated above.

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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Inventor(s) Hal Joseph Burch
William R Cheswick

Case 2-9

Serial No. 09/901,286 Group Art Unit 2136

Filing Date July 9, 2001

Examiner Brandon S. Hoffman

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SIR:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In connection with the above-referenced patent application, and in response to the Office Action dated November 7, 2005 in connection therewith, Applicants hereby traverse all outstanding rejections and respectfully request reconsideration of the instant application.

In the instant application, claims 1-30 are pending. In the instant Office Action, claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,658,565 issued to A. Gupta *et al.* on December 2, 2003 (hereinafter “*Gupta*”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,502,135 issued to E. Munger *et al.* on December 31, 2002 (hereinafter “*Munger*”). Applicants hereby respectfully traverse.

The present invention provides a novel method and apparatus for tracing a stream of anonymous (*i.e.*, unidentified or inaccurately identified) packets received at a given target in a communications network, in order to identify the source of a Denial of Service (DoS) attack. In